

AIR

MCLA- 6789

Chief, Foreign Division M

7 June 1951

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Operational

UTILITY's Visit to the USA

Reference: MGK-W-8395

1. Para 6c of reference indicated that your views on UTILITY's trip to the USA would be discussed in a later memorandum. Since this has not arrived here and because time is passing I feel that we should give you our views on what could become a rather sticky problem.

2. In suggesting that selected ZIPPER staff members might have the opportunity to visit the USA, we offered UTILITY, for obvious reasons, the first opportunity to accept such an invitation. [ ] and I had discussed the matter and felt that UTILITY should be the first member of ZIPPER to make the trip. When confronted with our offer UTILITY waived aside the prestige factor implicit in his preceding any of his subordinates and urged that we go ahead and plan their visits; that he would be happy to go as soon as the ZIPPER-UPGROWTH problem appeared to be under control. We bought this and told him to let us know when he felt he would be able to accept our invitation.

3. UTILITY has now accepted our invitation. He feels that late June or early July would be an excellent time for the trip. I've urged that he not make any definite plans at this point until I'm able to examine all factors. However, I indicated that the time he suggested would probably be very satisfactory.

4. At this point the chances that ZIPPER will emerge as the GIS, and a strongly centralized GIS at that, are better than they have been at any time since we first became associated with ZIPPER. During the past few weeks both [ ] and I have had the opportunity to meet Otto LENZ and GLOKE in the presence of UTILITY. There was nothing in the substance of what they said or the manner in which they treated UTILITY to suggest that they were hedging on accepting either ZIPPER as an organization or UTILITY as its head. Thus, I think it would be politically inept of us to equivocate in the treatment we give UTILITY in the USA simply because of our well-entrenched reservations about him. I think it is reasonably safe at this point to estimate that UTILITY will survive as a dominant figure in German affairs for some time to come.

5. UTILITY will be somewhat difficult to control on this jaunt and I would like to first present what I think UTILITY will want to do and what he will expect and then let you state the limitations which I will pass on to him.

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6. UTILITY has stated on numerous occasions that he hopes he will have the opportunity to shake hands with [ ] This meeting can be limited to almost just that. If he does not meet [ ] he will consider it a brush off. As you know, on his last trip to Spain he was received by General Vigon, C/S the Spanish Army, in spite of a temporary illness which made it necessary to see UTILITY in his home. On several occasions he has met the heads of the French, Swiss and Danish Services and a senior member, if not the head, of the Norwegian Service.

7. UTILITY has stated that he hopes that he will have a little free time in New York since he would like to see John Boker, Eric Warburg and his old friend, Eric Waldman whom UTILITY continues to regard as one of his greatest benefactors.

8. Then there is a certain Ruschewein (phonetic) who is the American representative of the German-Swiss-American group which controls the patents related to the development reported in FULL 1899. UTILITY has promised full details on this entire matter within a few days. However, I do know that Ruschewein is a member of a firm called American Technological Development Corporation of New York which is involved, in this matter. UTILITY expressed dissatisfaction with Ruschewein and indicated that he hopes that John Boker could replace him in the American end of the group. More about this in the next few days when I will get off a report on our visit to Bonn (WASH 35442) which took place ten days ago.

9. Regarding the Boker connection, UTILITY feels that if our organization in Washington established a connection with Boker and Boker were to replace Ruschewein in the German-Swiss-US group that is continuing further developmental work of the type which resulted in FULL 1899 it would ensure closest cooperation in this field in the future and would provide a suitable business channel instead of an official channel for the conduct of these affairs.

[ ] Comment: At this point I'm merely reporting the conversations on Ruschewein, Boker et al without attempting to comment or interpret them since the picture is quite incomplete and many of the remarks made by UTILITY do not, at this point, appear to make too much sense to me.

10. UTILITY would unquestionably like to see something of our Armed Forces, including the Pentagon. This, I imagine, depends on whether the Department of the Army is taken into confidence on these visits (as was intimated in WASH-43398) or kept completely in the dark.

11. UTILITY will, of course, measure the success of his trip in terms of how many important people he meets and how many professional conversations he can participate in. Anyone meeting UTILITY need not be concerned about what they can do to get the conversation started. A simple and very general question on any of two or three dozen general topics of intelligence or world political interest will start him off on a presentation of his own views which can be counted upon to occupy all available time. I have observed this type of performance by UTILITY many times — most recently when [ ] visited us.

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12. Parenthetically I may state that I do not think that any of the above applies to the rest of the ZIPPER staff scheduled for visits to the USA. They are all coming primarily to see something of the US; do not expect to meet anyone of great importance; do not expect to see anything of our organization; and will measure the success of the trip in terms of their own observations of the life, people, cities, geography and industry of the US.

13. As a cover for UTILITY, I suggest either a straight research (Historical Division) cover or an investigative and research cover in the field of international patent rights. UTILITY's working cover in Germany is a patent office connected with the Bavarian Light Metal Works owned by his friend Kaiser. This is a field in which UTILITY has an actual interest (para 2 above). He is an interesting enough figure that his cover story might actually be checked back to Germany. If so, the patent cover would hold up best under examination. Also, I imagine that the patent problems that exist between Germany and the United States are complicated enough to make a US visit quite normal.

14. I think the UTILITY trip should be limited to 14 days. The problem of escort has been discussed here at length. UTILITY has expressed the hope that I can accompany him. [ ] feels that I should. I'm not personally anxious to do so, but can see where it makes sense that I do. I would, for future reference, like to be present to hear what anyone of any importance professionally says to him and what he says to them. Also, I already have a fairly compact program planned here in Pullach this summer before I come home TDI in August. Related to this is the fact that the developments in the ZIPPER-UPFRONT and Remilitarization fields have been so complicated during the past six months that a Washington debriefing of [ ] and an exchange of ideas with the Washington staff would be very helpful in bringing the Washington and Germany points of view into line. We believe that it would be desirable if [ ] flew to Washington several days in advance of UTILITY and [ ] had completed his debriefing and arrangements for any meeting for UTILITY before the arrival of UTILITY and me. [ ] has worked closely with UTILITY for a year and would be the ideal individual to act as interpreter where necessary. As soon as the Washington end of the visit had been completed (including sight-seeing in Washington and vicinity) [ ] or [ ] could return to Germany and the other could accompany UTILITY on any travel undertaken. I do not think that more than four or five days in the Washington-New York area would be necessary. I then suggest a train and plane trip Westward and back to New York to catch the plane to Frankfurt.

15. I will continue to delay giving UTILITY a firm answer on the trip to the US until I hear from you. His trip, more than any of the others, can obviously produce a variety of political embarrassments unless properly handled. I hope that a cable reaction on this problem will be forthcoming soon after the arrival of this memo in Washington.

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1-CUS  
2-POB